

DETAILED ACTION

Interview Summary

1. This interview occurred over 02SEP2010 and 09SEP2010. The substance of the interviews describing the general nature of what was discussed is as follows:

- On 02SEP2010: Discussed obviating a potential rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 by amending the claims. The Examiner suggested that the Applicant add the limitation -- non-transitory-- in front of all occurrences of “computer-readable storage medium” throughout the claim(s) in order to properly render the claims in statutory form. Discussed amending, in the independent claims, the phrase “setting a communication parameter between the wireless communication device and another wireless communication device” by replacing “another wireless device” with --an operated device different from the wireless communication device-- in order to provide clarification with respect wireless communication device and the operated device throughout the rest of the claim.
- On 09SEP2010: Permission was granted for the Examiner’s Amendment (see ATTACHMENT) by James Carpenter (62747) acting on behalf John Wakeley (60418).

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements submitted on 01APR2010, 19MAY2010, and 08SEP2010 and have been considered by the Examiner and made of record in the application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Carpenter (62747) on behalf of John Wakeley (60418) on 09SEP2010.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims below as follows:

19. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device comprising:
a wireless communication unit for communicating wirelessly;
an operation unit for accepting a user operation for setting a communication parameter by a user; and
a processing unit communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, the processing unit performing a process of setting the communication parameter between the wireless communication device and another an operated device different from the wireless communication device,

wherein the processing unit:
detects the user operation at the wireless communication device;
detects [[an]] the operated device different from the wireless communication device, based on a signal received by the wireless communication unit, wherein the signal is

transmitted by the operated device in response to a user operation for setting the communication parameter made at the operated device;

performs the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device through the wireless communication unit; and

wherein the processing unit terminates the process of setting the communication parameter as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is detected within a predetermined time period after the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected.

20. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 19, further comprising a display unit adapted to display an error of the process of setting the communication parameter, if the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated as a failure.

21. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 19, wherein a search signal for searching for the operated device is transmitted through the wireless communication unit, if the processing unit detects the user operation at the wireless communication device, and

wherein the operated device is detected based on a response signal from the operated device responding to the search signal.

22. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 19, wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated as a failure, if no operated device is detected within the predetermined time period.

23. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 19, wherein the wireless communication device is an image processing apparatus having an image capturing unit for capturing an image.

24. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 19, wherein the wireless communication device is an image processing apparatus having an image outputting unit for outputting an image.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a wireless communication device that includes a processing unit that performs a process of setting a communication parameter between the wireless communication device and another an operated device different from the wireless communication device, the method comprising:

detecting a user operation for setting the communication parameter at the wireless communication device;

detecting an operated device different from the wireless communication device based on a signal transmitted by the operated device in response to a user operation for setting the communication parameter made at the operated device;

performing the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device; and

wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is not performed and is terminated as a failure, if a plurality of operated wireless communication devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is detected within a predetermined time period after the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected, wherein the terminating is performed, at least in part, by the processing unit.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising notifying a user of the failure, if the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising transmitting a search signal for searching for the operated device, if the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected,

wherein the operated device is detected based on a response signal from the operated device responding to the search signal.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated as a failure, if no operated device is detected within the predetermined time period after the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected.

29. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device comprising:

a wireless communication unit for communicating wirelessly;

an operation unit for accepting a user operation for setting a communication parameter by a user; and

a processing unit communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, the processing unit performing a process of setting the communication parameter between the wireless communication device and ~~another~~ an operated device different from the wireless communication device,

wherein the processing unit:

detects the user operation at the wireless communication device;

determines whether [[an]] the operated device ~~different from the wireless~~ ~~communication device~~ exists, wherein a user operation for setting the communication parameter has been made at the operated device;

performs the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device through the wireless communication unit; and

wherein the processing unit terminates the process of setting the communication parameter as a failure, if a plurality of operated partner devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is determined to exist within a predetermined time period elapsed from when the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected.

30. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, further comprising a notify unit adapted to notify a user of an error, if the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated as a failure.

31. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, wherein a search signal for searching for the operated device is transmitted by the wireless communication unit, if the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected, the operated device is determined to exist based on a response signal from the operated device transmitted in response to the search signal.

32. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, wherein the operated device is determined to exist based on a signal transmitted from the operated device.

33. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated as a failure, if no operated device is determined to exist within the predetermined time period.

34. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, wherein the wireless communication device is an image processing apparatus having an image capturing unit for capturing an image, and wherein the operation unit is operated to enter the wireless communication device into a network.

35. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, wherein the wireless communication device is an image processing apparatus having an image outputting unit for outputting an image, and

wherein the operation unit is operated to enter the wireless communication device into a network.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a wireless communication device that includes a processing unit that performs a process of setting a communication parameter between the wireless communication device and ~~another~~ an operated device different from the wireless communication device, the method comprising:

detecting a user operation for setting the communication parameter at the wireless communication device;

determining whether [[an]] the operated device exists ~~different from the wireless communication device~~, wherein a user operation for setting the communication parameter has been made at the operated device;

performing the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device; and

wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is not performed and is terminated as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is determined to exist within a predetermined time period elapsed from when the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected, wherein the terminating is performed, at least in part, by the processing unit.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, further comprising notifying a user of an error, if the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, further comprising transmitting a search signal for searching for the operated device, if the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected,

wherein the operated device is determined to exist based on a response signal from the operated device transmitted in response to the search signal.

39. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, wherein the operated device is determined to exist based on a signal transmitted from the operated device.

40. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 36, wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is terminated as a failure, if no operated device is determined to exist within the predetermined time period.

41. (Previously Presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium storing a computer program that causes a computer executing the program to function as the wireless communication device according to claim 19.

42. (Previously Presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium storing a computer program that causes a computer executing the program to function as the wireless communication device according to claim 29.

43. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 19, wherein the operation unit includes an operation button, and the user operation for setting the communication parameter is a pushing of the operation button.

44. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device according to claim 29, wherein the operation unit includes an operation button, and the user operation for setting the communication parameter is a pushing of the operation button.

45. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device comprising:

a wireless communication unit for communicating wirelessly;

an operation unit for accepting a user operation for setting a communication parameter by a user; and

a processing unit communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, the processing unit performing a process of setting the communication parameter between the wireless communication device and ~~another an operated device different from the~~ wireless communication device,

wherein the processing unit:

detects the user operation at the wireless communication device;

detects [[an]] ~~the~~ operated device ~~different from the wireless communication~~ device, based on a signal received by the wireless communication unit, wherein the signal is transmitted by the operated device in response to a user operation for setting the communication parameter made at the operated device;

performs the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device through the wireless communication unit; and wherein the processing unit terminates the process of setting the communication parameter as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is detected.

46. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device comprising:
a wireless communication unit for communicating wirelessly;
an operation unit for accepting a user operation for setting a communication parameter by a user;
a processing unit communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, the processing unit performing a process of setting the communication parameter between the wireless communication device and ~~another~~ an operated device different from the wireless communication device,
wherein the processing unit:
detects the user operation at the wireless communication device;
determines whether [[an]] the operated device ~~different from the wireless communication device~~ exists, wherein a user operation for setting the communication parameter has been made at the operated device;
performs the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device through the wireless communication unit; and

wherein the processing unit terminates the process of setting the communication parameter as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is determined to exist.

47. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a wireless communication device that includes a processing unit that performs a process of setting a communication parameter between the wireless communication device and ~~another~~ an operated device different from the wireless communication device, the method comprising:

detecting a user operation for setting the communication parameter at the wireless communication device;

detecting [[an]] the operated device ~~different from the wireless communication~~ device based on a signal transmitted by the operated device in response to a user operation for setting the communication parameter made at the operated device;

performing the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device; and

wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is not performed and is terminated as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is detected, wherein the terminating is performed, at least in part, by the processing unit.

48. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a wireless communication device that includes a processing unit that performs a process of setting a communication parameter between the wireless communication device and ~~another~~ an operated device different from the wireless communication device, the method comprising:

detecting a user operation for setting the communication parameter at the wireless communication device;

determining whether [[an]] the operated device different from the wireless communication device exists, wherein a user operation for setting the communication parameter has been made at the operated device;

performing the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device; and

wherein the process of setting the communication parameter is not performed and is terminated as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is determined to exist, wherein the terminating is performed, at least in part, by the processing unit.

49. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device comprising:

a wireless communication unit for communicating wirelessly;

an operation unit that accepts a user operation for setting a communication parameter; and

a processing unit communicatively coupled to a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium, the processing unit performing a process of setting the communication parameter with an operated device different from the wireless communication device, wherein a user operation

for setting the communication parameter has been made at the operated device, when the user operation at the wireless communication device is made ;

wherein the processing unit performs the process of setting the communication parameter with the detected operated device, if the wireless communication device detects a single operated device within a predetermined time period after the user operation at the wireless communication device is made, and displays an error of the process of setting the communication parameter, if the wireless communication device detects a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, within the predetermined time period.

50. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling a wireless communication device that includes a processing unit that performs a process of setting a communication parameter with an operated device different from the wireless communication device, wherein a user operation for setting the communication parameter has been made at the operated device, when another user operation for setting the communication parameter at the wireless communication device is made, the method comprising:

performing the process of setting the communication parameter with the operated device, if the wireless communication device detects a single operated device within a predetermined time period after the user operation at the wireless communication device is made;

displaying an error of the setting the communication parameter in a case that the wireless communication device detects a plurality of operated devices within the predetermined time period, wherein the displaying is performed, at least in part, by the processing unit.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **claims 19, 25, 29, 36, and 45-50**, the best prior art found during the examination of the present application, **Ozawa et al. (US Patent # 6,115,137)**, teaches printing an image sensed by a digital camera using a printing apparatus for forming an image on a print medium, image data corresponding to the sensed image is converted into print data, and the converted data is transmitted to the printing apparatus, thereby providing an image processing system which can print an image sensed by the digital camera using the printing apparatus without the intervention of any computer, and a digital camera and printing apparatus suitable for the image processing system (abstract).

Fujinami (US Patent Publication # US 2003/0123840 A1), teaches a DVD player is to be set as a source apparatus and a television receiver is to be set as a sink apparatus, for example, a user directs a remote control toward the DVD player and continues to depress a select button. The user then directs the remote control toward the television receiver while continuing to depress the select button. The user then releases the depression of the select button of the remote control directed toward the television receiver. As a result of the intuitive operations described above, the DVD player is designated as the source apparatus and the television receiver is designated as the sink apparatus. When another apparatus (for example, the DVD player 1-2) has also received the control signal, however, the DVD player 1-1 notifies the user of a failure in setting the source apparatus by blinking the LED display unit 37-1 in red, which unit has been lit in green, and generating two beeps from the confirming sound generating unit 38-1. The DVD players 1-1 and 1-2 are thereafter changed to an initial standby state (abstract, paragraph [0089]).

However, Ozawa, and Fujinami fail to teach, either alone or in combination, “...*the processing unit terminates the process of setting the communication parameter as a failure, if a plurality of operated devices, at which user operations for setting the communication parameter have been made, is detected within a predetermined time period after the user operation at the wireless communication device is detected.*”

Claims 21-24, 41, and 43; 26-28; 30-35, 42, and 44; and 37-39 and 40 are allowed by virtue of their dependency on **claims 19, 25, 29, and 36**, respectively.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL C. MURRAY whose telephone number is 571-270-1773. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 0800-1700 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Tonia Dollinger can be reached on (571)-272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. C. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2443

/George C Neurauter, Jr./
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443